

7 February 1979

Excerpts from the Staff Meeting Minutes of 7 February 1979

In response to the Director's question if anyone had analyzed the tape purported to be the Shah's last remarks to the Iranian military, McMahon said that [ ] have concluded that the tape was made from clips of various speeches of the Shah. Bowie noted his understanding that some analysis of the tape was being done within the Agency. Dirks mentioned that OSO had the necessary processing capability. The Director asked for a report of the findings tonight so that he could share them with the President tomorrow. He noted that in public statements he has been declining to comment on the authenticity of the tape. [ ] stated that his staff has provided noncommittal responses to Congressional queries on this topic. (Action: DDS&T) [ ]

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Hetu advised that David Martin of Newsweek informed him that the HPSCI is taking issue with the Director's response to questions about intelligence studies on Iran during his appearance on "Issues and Answers." Bowie explained that one quote read to the Director had come from a study written in May or June and actually published in August. The Director apparently thought the quote came from the draft NIE and stated that this quote had not been published. The Director asked Hetu to examine the transcript and the HPSCI evaluation to determine whether he had made an error. (Action: PA)

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[ ] asked if the Agency planned to provide comments on the House report on Iran, noting that his staff believed that the study revealed sources and methods and the Committee should be advised against doing so again in the future. Evans said we were obligated to comment.

[ ] said he would check and advise. (Action: LC) [ ]

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